

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The title of the application has been amended to one more fully descriptive of the disclosed invention.

The specification has been amended to correct minor matters noted during a reading thereof.

With respect to the formal claim objections, the method claims have been amended to clearly and positively set forth the steps comprising the claimed method. Antecedent bases have been provided for all claim language. The language proposed by the Examiner has been inserted in amended claim 12. It is believed the claims are now in proper form and it is respectfully requested that the objections be withdrawn.

With respect to the rejection of claim 6 under 35 U.S.C. §112(1), claim 6 has been canceled and claims 17 and 18 substituted in its stead. It is believed that the subject matter of these claims is clearly supported by the showings of Figs. 5 and 6 of the application, as filed, and corresponding portions of the text. It is believed the objection to claim 6 has been obviated.

The examined claims were rejected on substantive grounds under 35 U.S.C. §103 on U.S. Patent 5,623,925 to Swenson et al. (herein "Swenson").

Swenson describes a virtual medial instrument (VMI) switch system which can be used to measure a patient's EEG, EKG, EMG/NCV, etc. The system includes a selecting means, such as a computer keyboard, mouse, or touch screen for enabling a user of the system to select any of the different test protocols (EEG, EKG, EMG/NCV, etc.) to be performed on a patient. The system further includes a universal interface for connecting the system with a desired conduit set corresponding to the test protocol to be run on the patient. Swenson further discloses that more than one test may use a common set of conduits (Col. 7, lines 32-36). Swenson, however, does not teach or suggest that more than one patient measurement can be conducted simultaneously, for example, as noted in claims 4 and 5 of the present application.

Appln. No. 10/070,707
Amendment dated June 15, 2005
Reply to Office Action of December 15, 2004

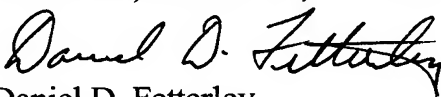
Although a set of conduits in Swenson can be used for several measurements it is not possible to run two test protocols at the same time. There is always a selection procedure in which the user chooses one test protocol to be used.

Amended claims 1-5 and 7-18 are thus deemed to define subject matter patentable over the references and to be allowable.

Withdrawal of the rejection and passage of the application to allowance is respectfully requested..

Respectfully submitted,

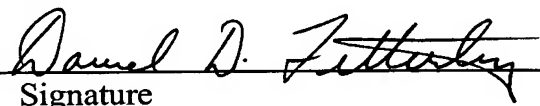
ANDRUS, SCEALES, STARKE & SAWALL, LLP


Daniel D. Fetterley
(Reg. No. 20,323)

100 East Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 1100
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202
(414) 271-7590

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| <u>Daniel D. Fetterley</u> | <u>20,323</u> |
| Name | Reg. No. |
| <u></u> | <u>6/15/05</u> |
| Signature | Date |